standing list with a remark to the following effect:—

"Remission order awaited from——"

"1818. Overcharges—It is to be distinctly understood that no overcharge is to be taken credit for until at all requirements as to certification, etc., are fully carried out, or in the event of the amount having been collected and paid in, until the overcharge has been duly refunded. Any overcharge allowed or refunded on the authority of an order issued by a Commercial Officer, before receipt of a duly certified overcharge sheet, when such is necessary, should be treated as an 'outstanding' and included in the outstanding list until receipt of the certified overcharge sheet."

"1820. Recovery of railway dues before delivery of goods.— Before delivery of goods, it should be seen that all railway dues and other charges have been paid. Wharfage and demurrage charges should be levied under tariff rules and recovered, from the consignees/endorsee before the removal of goods from railway premises. Similarly, all undercharges noticed as a result of check of invoices, weighment of goods, etc., should be recovered from consignees/endorsee before delivery of goods. As regards overcharges claimed at the time of delivery, the procedure indicated in Chapter XXI should be followed."

Chapter XXI: Para "2151.—Refund of overcharges by Chief Commercial Superintendent.—Refund of overcharges in all cases other than those referred to in para 2158 can only be allowed by the Refunds branch in the Headquarters Office.

These refunds include—

(i) error in weight, description or routing of traffic;

(ii) error in rate, classification or computation of freight; claimed after delivery of goods/parcels;

(iii) amount twice paid; and

(iv) overcharges of 'paid' consignments.

In all such cases, the Refund branch will call for an overcharge sheet (Form Com/0-7 Rev.) from the station collecting the freight. It should be ensured by the station master that the overcharge sheet complete in all respects is submitted to the refunds branch without delay."

"2162. A remark about its submission to the Refunds branch should invariably be entered against the relevant entry in the cash book/goods outward book or delivery book, as the case may be, to prevent the possibility of a second overcharge sheet being passed in respect of the same consignment."

Racket in Rail Reservations

1990. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of the Railways that in all reservation counters there is a big racket;

(b) whether Government are aware of the press reports that certain railway officials and the RPF personnel are involved in the reservation racket; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to see that genuine travellers are not harassed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION. (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some reports have appeared in the Press, in general, but there is no complaint of any big racket.

(c) To ensure availability of railway reservations to the genuine users, various steps are taken which include constitution of special teams consisting of Vigilance/Anti-fraud and Railway Protection Force

staff to launch special drives against the activities of touts and other anti-social elements at all major stations. Strict disciplinary action is taken against the staff found indulging in malpractices.

ललितपुर से सतना तक रेल लाइन

1991. **श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय:** क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खजुराहो से महोबा तक की लिंक-लाइन सहित ललितपुर से सतना तक और रीवा से सिंगरौली तक की 541 किलोमीटर लंबी नई रेल लाइन के निर्माण कार्य, जिसकी अनुमानित लागत 975 करोड़ रुपये हैं, को 1997-98 के बजट में शामिल किया गया है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उक्त रेल लाइन का प्रस्ताव अनुमोदन हेतु योजना आयोग को भेज दिया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा योजना और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राम नाईक): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) और (ग) अपेक्षित स्वीकृति अब प्राप्त हो गई है। अंतिम स्थान सर्वेक्षण शुरू किया गया है। इसके बाद भूमि का अधिग्रहण किया जाएगा तथा भूमि उपलब्ध हो जाने पर कार्य शुरू किया जाएगा।

Concession to senior citizens

1992. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry of Railways provide concession in fares for journeys undertaken by those above 60 years of age now; and

(b) if so, the date from which the amendment entitling senior citizens of 60 or more, instead of 65 or more years of age, has been enacted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Additional Coaches in Express Trains for Andhra Pradesh

1993. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to add additional coaches to Narsapur Express, Simhadri Express and Ratnachal Express in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that the present accommodation in the above three trains is inadequate;

(c) the number of coaches in each of the three trains respectively;

(d) the reasons for not adding more coaches to reduce over-crowding in the above trains; and

(e) what innovative measures are proposed in South Central Railway to meet passenger demand in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): (a) to (e) 7239/7240 Simhadari Express has been augmented with 5 coaches from 15.8.1998. The number of coaches in each of the three trains are as follows:

(i) 7055/7056 Hyderabad-Narsapur Express with 19 coaches on Vijayawada-Gudivada section.

(ii) 7239/7240 Simhadri Express with 20 coaches on Nidadavolu-Visakhapatnam section.

(iii) 2717/2718 Ratnachal Express with 17 coaches.